NOTES AND COMMENT FROM THE WORLD OF MUSIC

THE LAST DAYS OF BEETHOVEN

Appreciation of Schubert's Songs-Hummel's Visit to the Deathbed.

By H. E. KREHBIEL.

peatedly: "Truly, a divine spark dwells in Schubert; if I had had this poem I would have set it to music." This in the case of the majority of Concerning the last few days of Beethoven's life the Conversation Books provide absolutely no information. There is no record of the visit of Franz Schubert to the bedside of the dying man, but the account given by Schindler is probably correct in the main. On page 136 of the second volume of his biography Schindler says:

compositions were known to him and obsequious persons had always been busily engaged in throwing suspi-cion on his talent, I took advantage busily engaged in throwing suspi-cion on his talent, I took advantage of the favorable moment to place hefore him several of the greater songs, such as "Die junge Nonne." "Die Burgschaft," "Pher Taucher." "Elysium" and the Ossianic songs, acquaintance with which gave the master great pleasure: so much so, indeed, that he spake his judg-ment in these words: "Truly, the di-vine spark lives in Schubert," and so forth. At the time, however, only a small number of Schubert's works had appeared in print.

"DIVINE SPARK" IN SCHUBERT.

number and did not want to believe that up to that time (February, 1827), he had already composed over five hundred of them. But if he was astonished at the number he was filled with the highest admiration as soon as he discovered their contents. For several days he could not separate himself from them, and every day he spent hours with lphigenea's monologue, "Die Grenzen der Menscheit," "Die Allmacht," "Die junge Nonne," "Viola," the Müllerlieder and others, With joyous enthusiasm he cried out repeatedly: "Truly, a divine spark dwells in Schubert; if I had had this

be told here. When Beethoven's friends called upon him they usually reported to him about the performances of his called upon him they usually reported to him about the performances of his works. One day Gerhard von Breuning found that a visitor had written in the Conversation Book: "Your quartet which Schuppanzigh played yesterday."

little astonished to find the master sitting in apparent comfort at the window. He wore a long, gray sleeping robe, open at the time, and high boots renching to his knees. Emaclated by a long and severe illness, he seemed to me when he arose of tall

Through a spacious antercom in which high cabinets were piled with thick tied-up parcels of music we reached how my heart best! Bee thoven's living room, and were not a little astonished to find the master

Moscheles forwarding Beethoven's, he said: "Hummel and his wife are here; he came in haste to see Beethoven once again alive, for it is generally reported in Germany that he is on his death bed. It was a most touching sight last Thursday io see these two friends meet again." The letter was written on March 14, and the "last Thursday" was March 8. We have an account of this meeting in Ferdinand's Hiller's "Aus dem Tonleben unserer Zeit." Hiller was fiften years old and had come to the Austrian capital with Hummel who was his teacher. Hummel had heard in Weimar that Beethoven was hopelessly ill and had reached Viennam on March 6; two days later he visited his dying friend. Heller writes:

Through a spacious anteroom in make a pause in every moment of a conversation, during which, as it were, thought was condemned to come to a standstill! He always followed the hand of the writer with hungry eves and comprehended what was written at a glance instead of reading it. The liveliness of the conversation naturally interfered with the continual writing of the visitor. I can scarcely blame myself, much as I regree it, for net taking down more I can scarcely blame myself, much as I regret it, for not taking down more extended notes than I dd; indeed, I rejoice that a lad of fifteen years who found himself in a great city for the first time was self-possessed enough to record any details. I can vouch with the heat conscience for the perfect accuracy of all that I am able to

The conversation at first turned,



John Baptist Jenger, Anselm Huttenbrenner and Franz Schubert

did not please." Beethoven was asleep | 'stature; he was unshaven; his thick, | as is usual, on domestic affairs the

half-gray hair fell in disorder over his temples. The expression of his features heightened when he caught sight of Hummel, and he seemed to be extraordinarily glad to meet him. The two men embraced each other most cordially. Hummel introduced me.

journey and sojourn, my relations with Hummel and matters of that kind. Beethoven saked me about Goethe's health with extraordinary solicitude and we were able to make

four months," he cried out; "one must at last lose patience!" Other things in Vienna did not seem to be to his liking, and he spoke with the utmost severity of "the present taste in art," and the "dilettanteism which is ruining everything." Nor did he spare the government up to the most exalted regions. "Write a volume of penifential hymns and dedicate it to the Empress," he remarked with a gloomy smile to Hummel, who, however, made no use of the well-meant advice. Hummel, who was a practical over, made no use of the well-meant advice. Hummel, who was a practical man, took advantage of Beethoven's condition to ask his attention to a matter which occupied a long time. It was about the theft of one of flummel's concertos which had been printed illicitly before it had been brought out by the lawful publisher. Hummel wanted to appeal to the Bundestag against this wretched business, and to this end desired to have Beethoven's signature, which seemed to him of great value. He sat down to explain the matter in writing, and, meanwhile, I was perseemed to him of great value.

set down to explain the matter in writing, and, meanwhile, I was permitted to carry on the conversation with Beethoven. I did my best, and the master continued to give free rein to his moody and passionate utterances in the most confidential manner. In part, they referred to his nephew, whom he had loved greatly, who, as is known, caused him much trouble, and, at the time, because of a few trifles (thus Beethoven, at least, semed to consider them), had gotten into troubles with the officials. "Little thieves are hanged, but big ones are allowed to go free!" he exclaimed ill-humorediy. He asked about my studies, and, encouraging me, he said, "Art must be go free!" he exclaimed ili-numoredly. He asked about my studies, and, encouraging me, he said, "Art must be propagated ceaselessly," and when I spoke of the exclusive interest in Italian opera, which then prevailed in Vienna, he gave utterance to the memorable words: "It is said, vox populi, vox Dei. I never believed it."

improvised in an obviously exalted mood on the Allegretto of the A major symphony; the public knew why he participated, and the performance and its reception formed a truly inspiring incident.

HILLER'S ACCOUNT OF DEATH. Shortly after our second visit the report spread throughout Vienna that the Philharmonic Society of London had sent Beethoven £100 in order to case his sickhed. It was order to case his sickbed. It was added that this surprise had made so great an impression on the great poor man that it had also brought physical relief. When we stood again at his bedside on the 20th we could educe from his utterances how greatly he had been rejoiced by this altruism; but he was very weak and spoke only in faint and disconnected phrases. "I will, no doubt, soon be going above," he whispered, after our first greeting. Similar remarks returned frequently. In the intervals, however, he spoke of projects and hones which were destined not to be realized. Speaking of the noble conduct of the Philharmonic Society and in praise of the English people, he duct of the Philharmonic Society and in praise of the English people, he expressed the intention, as soon as matters were better with him, to undertake the journey to London. "I will compose a grand overture for them and a grand symphony." Then, too, he would visit Mme, Hummel (she had come along with her husband) and go to I do not know how many places. It did not occur to us to write anything for him. His eyes which were still lively when we saw him last, drooped and closed to day and it was difficult from time to time for him to raise himself. It was no longer possible to deceive one's self—the worst was the picture pre-

the worst was to be feared. Hopeless was the picture presented by the extraordinary man when we sought him again on March 23. It was to be the last time. He lay, weak and miserable, sighing deeply at intervals. Not a word fell from his lips; sweat stood upon his forehead. His handkerchief his forehead. His handkerchief not being conveniently at hand Hummel's wife took her fine cambrie handkerchief and dried his face several times. Never shall I forget the grateful glance with which his broken cye looked upon her. On March 26, while we were with a merry company in the art-loving house of Herr vot Liebenberg (who had formerly been a pupil of Hummel's) we were surprised by a severe storm between 5 and 6 o'clock. A thick snow-furry was accompanied by loud peals of thunder and flashes of lightning, which lighted up the room. A few hours later guests arrived with the intelligence that Ludwig van Beethoven was no more—he had died at 4:45 o'clock.

his 'cello only in recitals with his wife, Laura Maverick, the contraito. Now Mr. Hahn has affiliated himself with the Robyn Studios, where he will give several mornings a week to 'cello instruction. Mr. Hahn will also continue his classes in pianoforte and theory at his own studio, at 172 West 79th st, where he now has a large number of interested pupils.

Mr. and Mrs. John Dennis Mehan, teachers of voice, studio Carnegie Hall, after a very busy summer session which was given for professionals and will spend their vacation at Manhattan Peach. Long Island. The summer ses-sion was attended by many representa-tive voice teachers, directors of music schools and concert singers who came from almost every part of the United

war. She has received letters and cables from most of them assuring her that they will be in America on sched-ule time to fill all concert dates. Kath-arine Goodson will be heard December ule time to fill all concert dates. Katharine Goodson will be heard December 1 instead of January I as originally arranged. Because of the necessity of canceiling Miss Goodson's bookings in Europe, Mrs. Sawyer is arranging bookings for the month of December in America for her. A cable from Eleanor Spencer's brother states that Miss Spencer will be in America September I. Mme. Eames de Gogorza and Emilio de Gogorza will be in New York the middle of September. Mme. Culp and Coenraad von Bos are expected October 1. Cordelia Lee will arrive September 15.

Katherine Noack Fique, of the Fique Musical Institute, 128 DeKaib av. Brooklyn, was well received at Mount Desert, Me., where she sang at a concert given by the Northeast Harbor Choral Society, on Thursday evening, August 13. Her numbers were "Caro mio ben." old Italian aria, Giordani; "One Fine Day," from "Madame Butterfly," Puccini; "The Trout," Schubert; "Ouvre Tes Yeux Bleues," Massenet; "Niemand hat's gesehn," Loewe, and "The Danza," Chadwick.

Musical Entertainments.

To fill the need of struggling vocal-

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Lowry are guests at the Seaside House until September.
Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Lyons are New York guests at a prominent Boardwalk J. Dallen.

Taylor.

Bothwell Mr. and Mrs. P. N. MinsBothwell Mr. and Mrs. MinsBothwell Mr. and Mrs. P. N. MinsBothwell Mr. and

Alamac E. B. Moore, J. Rubenstein,
Max Rubenstein, Walt H. Mervall,
George W. Roberts, B. L. Storck, Mr.
and Mrs. F. E. Reid, H. L. Rhemes, H.
B. Legg, G. A. Legg, D. H. Young, M.
Wolff, J. V. Gagrew and Henry S.
Hartman.
Rudolf—H. C. Spillman, Miss M. E.
Phillips, Miss Claire Phillips, Mr. and
Mrs. B. Laski, Miss Juliette Laski, Harry S. Souders, Gus Westheimer, Thomas
Bengaugh, Miss Pauline Brock, Samuel D. Schratzer, P. S. McGrath and
Mrs. J. Duback.

Sigkland, Miss

Miss Pauline Brock, Samuel D. Schratzer, P. S. McGrath and
Mrs. J. Duback.

Sigkland, Miss

Morth and Albert Kaufman.

A Denver man worth \$5,000,000, who
is having a lot of trouble with his faming, blanch in fluence
of an immense diamond that is supposed to have once belonged to Queen
ing to finance Columbus on his search
for the New World. So far the Denver
man has not offered to give the diamond away, though there are any pumber of people willing to take a chance man has not offered to give the diamental distribution. Seaside—Miss Ethel Kirkland, Miss Baside—Miss Ethel Kirkland, Miss ber of people willing to take a chance Annie Y. Porter, Miss Leora Tobias, W. cr. it.—Washington Herald.

Institute of Musical Art

of the City of New York
FRANK DAMROSCH, Director,
Session opens October 12th.
Examinations for admission Sept. 28th to Oct. 8th.
The Institute gives preference to those applicants whose natural ability and carriest
purpose give promise of musical excellence
fundawed and conducted without thought of
profit, the institute commands the services
of archat-teachiery whose private terms
would be probliditive to most students. Fees
cre moderate and uniform. Correspondence
invited from those desiring the best. Address.

A COLUMN FOR GARDEN LOVERS

Right away, before September is May I ask you several questions?

""" May I ask you several questions?

""" Ought weeds be put in the manure pile? (2) Kerosene emulsion doesn't seem to kill the black aphis on my calendula; will anything? (3) How can celery be stored over winter when the cellar has a furnace making it too hot, and when the cetther. place over winter and planted out to root next spring. Finally, tender sorts growing under glass all the year round can be multiplied by cuttings of soft green woed taken in November or December, and plunged at once in sand in a bench supplied with bottom heat to root not later than February or March, and then to be transferred to small individual pots for the first stage of their life of care and forcing. For the first mentioned method, which is really the easier and certainly the most important Just at this time.

which is really the easier and certainly the most important just at this time, the best conditions are supplied by a simple cold frame located against the most instead of the south side of a can confidently be expected; or, finally, building, fence or hedge. If you can make a new one for the purpose, put in the bottem of the bed about a foot over each addition of weeds to hasten over each addition of weeds to have the work and the plant tissues, weed seeds included when the plant tissues, we will be p

The first beautiful to the beautiful to

Will you kindly tell me how and when to slip rose bushes? Mrs. W. would be a very desirable precaution.

May I ask you several questions?

On March 13 Hummel took me with him a second time to Beethoven. We found his condition to be materially worse. He lay in bed, seemed to suffer great pains, and at intervals groaned deeply despite the fact that he spoke much and animatedly. Now he seemed to take it much to heart that he had not married. Already at our first visit he had joked about it with Hummel, whose wife he had known as a young and beautiful maiden. "You are a lucky man," he said to him now smilingly: "you have a wife who takes On March 13 Hummel took me ingly; "you have a wife who takes care of you, who is in love with you; but poor me!" And he sighed heav-ily. He also begged of Hummel to bring his wife to see him, she not having been able to persuade herself to see in his present state the man whom she had known at the zenith of his powers. A short time before he his powers. A short time before he had received a present of a picture of the house in which Haydn was born. He kept it close at hand and showed it to us. "It gave me a childish pleasure." he said, "the cradle of so great a man!" Then he appealed to Hummel in behalf of Schindler, of whom so much was spoken afterward. "He is a good man," he said, "who has taken a great deal of trouble on my account. He is to give a concert aoon, at which I promised my co-operation. But now nothing is likely to come of that. Now I would like to have you do me the favor of playing. We must always help poor artists." As a matter of course, Hummel consented. The concert took place ten days after Beethoven's death ten days after Beethoven's death-in the Josephstadt Theatre. Hummel

a pupil of Hummer's) we severe storm between 5 and 6 o'clock. A thick snow-flurry was accompanied by loud peals of thunder and flashes of lightning, which lighted up the room. A few hours later guests arrived with the intelligence that Ludwig van Beethoven was no more—he had died at 4:45 o'clock.

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At Music Studios.

Alice Louise Mertens, contralto, pupil of William Stickles, of Acolian Hall, was well received in Mendelssohn's "Elijah," conducted by Tali Esen Morgan in the Auditorium at Ocean Grove, N. J., on Saturdsy evening, August 15. Miss Mertens sang the part of Queen Jezebel.

Violoncellists will now have the op-

Violoncellists will now have the opportunity to study under Carl Hahn.

Mr. Hahn formerly taught 'cello at the Cincinnati College of Music, but in recent years has devoted himself to the teaching of piano and conducting, using ciety, of Evanston, Ill., on November 19.

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Baker, of New York, are guests at the Hotel Raleigh for the season.

Mr. and Mrs. Gus Edwards are New Yorkers at the Hotel Rudolf.
Other prominent New York folk at the shore are:
Alamse E. B. Moore, J. Rubenstein, Max. Rubenstein, Walt H. Merrall, Mrs. A. C. Bennett, Mrs. Carty, D. M. McCarty, W. M. Wadsworth and Albert Kaufman.

MUSICAL INSTRUCTION.

MUSICAL INSTRUCTION.

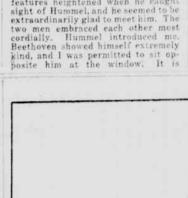
Conservatory of Music of America

of the paper that had been in contact with the soil has become red, the presence of acids is indicated and the soil probably needs lime. Nearly any soil contains enough acid normally to give the paper a slight pinkish tinge, but a rapid and very distinct change is a fairly definite sign of the need of lime. Moreover, its addition cannot possibly, under average conditions, injure a soil, so the advice, if given by the litmus paper, is very liable to be worth following.

FIRE TOURNAMENT AT ASBURY PARK

assemble here next week from points in New Jersey, New York and Pennsyl-

The firemen will bring with them ap-





apartments at the Shelburne during a C. Ayer, Mrs. W. Meyers and Charles Taylor.
Bothwell Mr. and Mrs. P. N. Mins-

hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Knox are prominent guests at the Mariborough-Blenheim.

J. Dallen.

Shelburne H. E. Brown, Louis S. Levy, Colonel Stern, Mrs. E. B. Gett, S. H. Cressa, H. S. Loveman and C. M.

The National